

FIREFIGHTER II MOD C

Fire Prevention and Public Education

Firefighter II, Mod C
Fire Prevention and Public Education

- 2-19 FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION (3-5)**
- 2-19.1** Identify five common causes of fires and their prevention.
 - 2-19.2** Identify the importance of inspection and public fire education programs to fire department public relations and the community.
 - 2-19.3** Identify dwelling inspection programs.
 - 2-19.4** Identify the components of a program to instruct citizens how to report a fire or other emergency.
 - 2-19.5** Identify school exit drill procedures.
 - 2-19.6** Identify life safety programs for the home.
 - 2-19.7** Identify common fire hazards and recommendations for their correction.
 - 2-19.8** Identify the components of fire station tours.
 - 2-19.9** Identify the elements of fire safety surveys.
 - 2-19.10** **Demonstrate inspection procedures for private dwellings,**
 - 2-19.11** **Demonstrate, individually or as a group, presenting a prepared public education program to an identified audience for any of the following topics:**
 - 2-19.11.1** Stop, drop, and roll
 - 2-19.11.2** Crawl low in smoke
 - 2-19.11.3** Escape planning
 - 2-19.11.4** Calling the fire department
 - 2-19.11.5** Fire station tours
 - 2-19.11.6** Residential smoke detector placement and maintenance.
 - 2-19.11.7** Other locally developed programs
 - 2-19.12** **Demonstrate documenting the presentation of a program covered in 2-19.11, using a reporting form that includes:**
 - 2-19.12.1** Program title
 - 2-19.12.2** Number of participants
 - 2-19.12.3** Evaluations

References:

IFSTA Essentials, 4th ed., Chapter 17
Delmar, Firefighter's Handbook, copyright 2000, Chapter 21
Jones & Bartlett, Fundamentals of Fire Fighting Skills, 1st ed., Chapter 35

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2-19 Fire Prevention and Public Education (3-5)

I. Identify the five common causes of fires and their prevention. **2-19.1**

A. Causes

1. Poor housekeeping
 - a. Can make maneuvering difficult
 - b. Increases fire load
 - c. Increases the chance a flammable or combustible material will come in contact with an ignition source
 - d. May hide other hazards
2. Heating, lighting and power equipment that is improperly used or defective
 - a. Old or worn electrical equipment
 - b. Sparking, arcing, resistance heating may ignite combustibles
 - c. May be a shock hazard
3. Fuel sources can be provided by:
 - a. Improper disposal of cleaning or floor sweeping compounds
 - b. Depending on substance, may be spontaneously combustible
 - c. May be a volatile fuel source if ignited
4. Cooking
 - a. Unattended cooking materials or food on the stove
 - b. Use of stoves and ovens for heating the home
 - c. Loose clothing ignited by burners
5. Personal fire hazards
 - a. Individual traits, habits and personalities of occupants of a building
 - b. Unsafe acts of individuals

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- B. Prevention
 - 1. Can be accomplished by reducing or eliminating fire hazards through public education and fire prevention programs
- II. Identify the importance of inspection and public fire education programs to fire department public relations and the community. **2-19.2**
 - A. The most effective way to fight fires is to prevent them from starting
 - B. Effective fire prevention and public education programs are the best way to minimize fire hazards
 - C. The cornerstone of fire prevention is an aggressive inspection campaign
 - 1. Most important non-firefighting activity performed by firefighters
 - 2. Can reduce the risk of serious fires
 - 3. Enables firefighters to become familiar with building and their hazards
 - 4. May visualize how existing strategies apply to the building
 - 5. Permits recognition of hazards not noted before
 - 6. Provides a value to citizens as an aid to prevention of fire
 - 7. Firefighter gain valuable on-site information
 - 8. Permits them to enforce local fire codes
 - D. Gives the fire department a chance to build or reinforce a good public image.
- III. Identify dwelling inspection programs. **2-19.3**
 - A. General
 - 1. The firefighter understands that a dwelling inspection campaign is a fire department's effort to reduce the number of fire deaths and home fires and is conducted on a voluntary basis.
 - 2. The firefighter represents the fire department
 - 3. The firefighter meets the citizens with dignity and pride
 - 4. The public has the right to expect firefighters to be fully qualified to advise them on fire prevention matters
 - 5. The firefighter maintains a courteous attitude on all inspections
 - 6. The firefighter thanks the owner or occupant for the invitation into their home
 - 7. The firefighter remembers that the primary interest is preventing a fire that could take the lives of the occupants and destroy the home.
 - 8. The firefighter makes constructive comments regarding the elimination of hazardous conditions

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9. The firefighter keeps the inspection confidential
10. The firefighter never make notes from the inspection available to an insurance carrier, repair service organization, sales promotion groups, or any publicity group that would identify a given home.

B. Procedures

1. Should approach the house on the sidewalk or path
2. Should clean shoes before entering house
3. If no one is home, should leave materials between doors or under doormat. DO NOT use mailbox
4. Should introduce self to the homeowner and state purpose of the inspection
5. Should ask for permission to make the inspection
6. Conducts the inspection
 - a. Attics
 - 1) Faulty electrical equipment
 - 2) Storage
 - b. Living areas
 - 1) Heating appliances
 - 2) Cooking procedures
 - 3) Smoking materials
 - 4) Electrical distribution
 - 5) Electrical appliances
 - c. Basement
 - 1) Accumulation of waste or discarded material
 - 2) Furnace and stove vent pipes
 - 3) Gas appliances
 - 4) Oil burning installations
 - 5) Work rooms
 - d. Outside the home
 - 1) Condition of roof
 - 2) Condition of chimneys
 - 3) Condition of yard
 - 4) Waste burners
 - 5) Condition of garages or shed
 - 6) Flammable liquids

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7. If hazards are detected, they should be explained and corrections suggested
 8. Favorable conditions should be complimented
 9. Should thank the homeowner for permitting the inspection.
- IV. Identify the components of a program to instruct citizens how to report a fire or other emergency. **2-19.4**
- A. Dial the appropriate phone number
 1. 9-1-1
 2. Fire department's seven digit number
 3. "O" for Operator
 - B. Give the address with cross street or landmark
 - C. State his/her name and location
 - D. Give the phone number he/she is calling from
 - E. State the nature of the emergency
 - F. Stay on the line if requested to do so by the dispatcher
- V. Identify school exit procedures. **2-19.5**
- A. Evacuation drills should be conducted as often as necessary to ensure all occupants of building are familiar with process.
 - B. Focus of drill should be placed on disciplined control and order.
 - C. Specific exits should be assigned to groups with alternate routes utilized.
 - D. Occupants should proceed to pre-designated assembly points outside and away from the building. Teachers should take roll call, reporting missing or unaccounted for children to responding firefighters.
 - E. Emergency evacuation plans should be in graphic form and posted in each classroom and at various location throughout school
 - F. Fire alarm system should be used when conducting a drill to familiarize students and staff with sound.
- VI. Identify life safety programs for the home. **2-19.6**
- A. Stop, Drop and Roll
 1. Self
 - a. Do not run
 - b. Stop immediately where you are
 - c. Drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands
 - d. Roll around until the flames are smothered
 - e. Call for medical assistance

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2. Others
 - a. Assist them to the ground
 - b. Smother the flames using a blanket or heavy coat
 - c. Call for medical assistance

B. Escape planning

1. Have two escape exits from every room
2. If fire is detected and you are in bed, crawl low to the door
3. Alert others by blowing a whistle or shouting
4. Feel the door
5. If it's hot, exit through another exit (window)
6. If the door isn't hot, open the door slowly, check for heavy smoke or fire; if safe, crawl out.
7. Close the door behind you
8. Continue crawling to safety
9. Once outside, go the family meeting place
10. Ask someone or call the fire department

C. Crawl low in smoke

1. Crawl low in smoke maintaining contact with wall according to escape plan.
2. Feel for heat along walls to avoid fire.

D. Escape planning

1. Have two escape exits from every room
2. If fire is detected and you are in bed, crawl low to the door
3. Alert others by blowing a whistle or shouting
4. Feel the door
5. If its hot, exit through another exit (window)
6. If the door isn't hot, open door and crawl out
7. Close the door behind you
8. Continue crawling to safety
9. Once outside, go to the family meeting place
10. Ask someone or call the fire department

VII. Identify common fire hazards and recommendations for their correction. 2-19.7

A. Combustible materials

1. Clothing, unused furniture, cardboard boxes, papers, etc.
2. Stored properly

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- B. Appliances
 - 1. Proper operation, maintenance, conditions
- C. Electrical wiring and equipment
 - 1. Wiring old, frayed, exposed
 - 2. Improperly installed electrical conductors
 - 3. Unprotected light bulbs
 - 4. Replace, clean, repair
- D. Portable heating units
 - 1. Listed by UL or FM
 - 2. Separated from other combustible materials
 - 3. Properly maintained
- E. Wood stoves/fireplaces
 - 1. Properly installed
 - 2. Clear of combustibles
 - 3. Vent pipes in good condition
 - 4. Cleaning of chimney
 - 5. Maintenance
 - 6. Proper ash disposal
- F. Heating fuels
 - 1. Stored properly, away from heat or other ignition sources
 - 2. Proper containers, closed/sealed
- G. General housekeeping practices
 - 1. Ash trays for smoking materials
 - 2. Matches and lighters stored away from children
 - 3. Candles used safely
 - 4. Exhaust vents and dryer vents cleaned regularly

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- H. Residential smoke detector placement and maintenance
 - 1. Placement
 - a. One detector near every sleeping room
 - b. One on every level
 - c. Detector shall be installed
 - 1) On ceiling at least 6 inches from wall
 - 2) On the wall from 4 to 6 inches from the ceiling
 - d. Replace detector every 10 years
 - 2. Responsibility of owner or landlord to:
 - a. Have the detector installed
 - b. Ensure that any required batteries are in operating condition at the time a tenant takes possession of the dwelling unit
 - 3. Responsibility of tenant to:
 - 1) Test the detector
 - 2) Perform good maintenance
 - 3) Notify the owner or authorized agent, in writing, of any deficiencies that cannot be corrected
 - 4) Replacement of batteries
 - 4. Maintenance suggestions
 - a. Test weekly
 - b. Once a month, test with smoke
 - c. If battery operated, replace at least twice a year
- I. Electrical distribution panels
 - 1. Proper circuit protection and clearance
 - 2. Proper number of circuits
 - 3. Properly marked
- J. Gas appliances
 - 1. Proper clearance to combustible materials
 - 2. Piping and vents in good condition
 - 3. Manual and automatic gas safety devices

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- K. Furnaces, hot water heaters, vent pipes
 - 1. Properly installed
 - 2. Clear of combustibles
 - 3. Vent piping in good condition
 - 4. Hot water temperature settings low enough to prevent scalding and burns
 - L. Shop or work rooms
 - 1. Good housekeeping
 - 2. Safe, orderly storage of materials
 - M. Flammable liquids
 - 1. Stored correctly and out of reach of children
 - 2. Limited quantities
 - 3. Proper containers
 - N. Building components, outbuildings, yard area
 - 1. Chimneys in good condition with spark arrestors
 - 2. Roof and gutters clear of waste
 - 3. Yard and porch areas clear of waste
 - 4. Barbecues and fuel properly used and stored
 - 5. Outside waste burners used safely
 - 6. Garage and outbuildings safe storage of dangerous chemicals and fuels; clear of waste
 - 7. Security devices do not hamper egress
- VIII. Identify the components of fire station tours. **2-19.8**
- A. Greet group as they enter the station
 - B. Explain to them what to do in case of an alarm
 - C. Escort them around the station
 - D. Explain:
 - 1. How alarms are received
 - 2. Apparatus
 - 3. Protective clothing
 - 4. Some type of fire prevention message
 - E. Answer any questions they may have
 - F. Thank them for coming and invite them back

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- IX. Identify the elements of fire safety surveys. **2-19.9**
- A. Public Service Announcements
 - B. School Programs
 - C. School Evacuation Drills
 - D. Adult Programs
 - E. Fire Station Tours
 - F. Specialty programs
- X. **Demonstrate inspection procedures for private dwellings. 2-19.10**
- A. Approach the house on the sidewalk or path
 - B. Clean shoes before entering house
 - C. If no one home, leaves materials between doors or under doormat
 - D. Introduce self to homeowner and states purpose of the inspection
 - E. Ask for permission to make the inspection
 - F. Conduct the inspection
 - G. Check for the following hazards:
 - 1. Attics
 - a. Faulty electrical equipment
 - b. Storage
 - 2. Living areas
 - a. Heating appliances
 - b. Cooking procedures
 - c. Smoking materials
 - d. Electrical distribution
 - e. Electrical appliances
 - 3. Basement
 - a. Accumulation of waste or discarded material
 - b. Furnace and stove vent pipes
 - c. Gas appliances
 - d. Oil burning installations
 - e. Work rooms

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4. Outside the home
 - a. Condition of the roof
 - b. Condition of chimneys
 - c. Condition of yard
 - d. Waste burners
 - e. Condition of garages or sheds
 - f. Flammable liquids

- H. If hazards are detected, they are explained and corrections suggested
- I. Favorable conditions are complimented
- J. At the conclusion, thank the homeowner for permitting the inspection

XI. Demonstrate, individually or as a group, presenting a prepared public education program to an identified audience for any of the following topics: 2-19.11

A. Stop, drop and roll 2-19.11.1

1. Self
 - a. Do not run
 - b. Stop immediately where you are
 - c. Drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands
 - d. Roll around until the flames are smothered
 - e. Call for medical assistance
2. Others
 - a. Assist them to ground
 - b. Smother the flames using a blanket or heavy coat
 - c. Call for medical assistance

B. Crawl low in smoke 2-19.11.2

1. Crawl low in smoke maintaining contact with wall according to escape plan.
2. Feel for heat along walls to avoid fire.

C. Escape planning 2-19.11.3

1. Have two escape exits from every room
2. If fire is detected and you are in bed, crawl low to the door
3. Alert others by blowing a whistle or shouting
4. Feel the door

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5. If its hot, exit through another exit (window)
6. If the door isn't hot, open door slowly, check for heavy smoke or fire; if safe, crawl out
7. Close the door behind you
8. Continue crawling to safety
9. Once outside, go to the family meeting place
10. Ask someone or call the fire department

D. Calling the fire department 2-19.11.4

1. Dial the appropriate phone number
 - a. 9-1-1
 - b. Fire department seven digit number
 - c. "O" Operator
2. Give the address with cross street or landmark
3. State your name and location
4. Give the phone number you are calling from
5. State the nature of the emergency
6. Stay on the line, if requested to do so, by the dispatcher

E. Fire station tours 2-19.11.5

1. Greet the group as they enter the station
2. Explain to them what to do in case of an alarm
3. Escort them around the station
4. Explain
 - a. How alarms are received
 - b. Apparatus
 - c. Protective clothing
 - d. Some type of fire prevention message
5. Answer any questions they may have
6. Thank them for coming and invite them back

F. Residential smoke detector placement and maintenance 2-19.11.6

1. Placement
 - a. One detector near every sleeping room
 - b. One every level
 - c. Replace detector every 10 years

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2. Detector shall be installed
 - a. On the ceiling at least 6 inches from wall
 - b. On wall from 4 to 6 inches from ceiling
3. Responsibility of owner or landlord to
 - a. Have the detector installed
 - b. Ensure that any required batteries are in operating condition at the time the tenant takes possession of the dwelling unit
4. Responsibility of tenant to
 - a. Test the detector
 - b. Perform general maintenance
 - c. Notify the owner or authorized agent, in writing, of any deficiencies that cannot be corrected
 - d. Replacement of batteries
5. Maintenance suggestions
 - a. Test weekly
 - b. Once a month, test with smoke
 - c. If battery operated, replace at least once a year

G. Other locally developed programs. **2-19.11.7**

XII. Demonstrate documenting the presentation of a program covered in 2-19.11, using a reporting form that includes: 2-19.12

- A. Program title **2-19.12.1**
- B. Number of participants **2-19.12.2**
- C. Evaluations **2-19.12.3**